

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following Listing of Claims replaces all prior Listings and versions of claims in the above-identified application.

Listing of Claims

1-23. (Cancelled)

24. (Previously Presented) A cysteine variant of granulocyte-macrophage colony-stimulating factor of SEQ ID NO: 8, wherein a cysteine residue is inserted preceding the first amino acid of granulocyte-macrophage colony-stimulating factor; wherein the variant has biological activity *in vitro* as measured by proliferation of a cell line that proliferates in response to granulocyte-macrophage colony-stimulating factor.

25. (Previously Presented) A cysteine variant of granulocyte-macrophage colony-stimulating factor of SEQ ID NO: 8, wherein a cysteine residue is inserted following the last amino acid of granulocyte-macrophage colony-stimulating factor; wherein the variant has biological activity *in vitro* as measured by proliferation of a cell line that proliferates in response to granulocyte-macrophage colony-stimulating factor.

26-43. (Cancelled)

44. (Currently Amended) The cysteine variant according to ~~any one of claims 24 to 26~~Claim 24 or Claim 25, wherein the inserted cysteine residue is modified with a cysteine-reactive moiety.

45. (Currently Amended) The cysteine variant according to ~~any one of claims 24 to 26~~Claim 24 or Claim 25, wherein the inserted cysteine residue is modified with polyethylene glycol.

46. (Currently Amended) The cysteine variant according to ~~any one of claims 24 to 26~~Claim 24 or Claim 25, wherein the cysteine variant is modified with at least one polyethylene glycol.